

Message Text

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64

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 STR-08 EB-11 AID-20 OMB-01 TRSE-00

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 DRC-01 /122 W
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O R 291938Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7542

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

AMCONSUL BELIZE

UNCLAS BRIDGETOWN 1319

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN PINTS AV SC

SUBJ: BRADSHAW SIGNS CARICOM TREATY

REF: BRIDGETOWN 0682

1. NEWS REPORTS FROM KINGSTON INDICATE THAT ST. KITTS/NEVIS/
ANGUILLA PREMIER ROBERT BRADSHAW DEFIED BRITIAN'S BAN ON IN-
VOLVING BREAKAWAY ANGILLA IN CARICOM MEMBERSHIP AND SIGNED TREATY
ON BEHALF OF HIS TRIPARTITE STATE JULY 26. ST. KITTS/NEVIS/
ANGUILLA, UNTIL NOW ONLY FORMER CARIFTA MEMBER OUTSIDE NEW RE-
GIONAL GROUPING, BECOMES TWELFTH MEMBER OF ENLARGED COMMON MARKET.
LAST APRIL, BRADSHAW DEAMATICALLY REFUSED TO SIGN CARICOM TREATY
BECAUSE OF HMG BAN ON INVOLVING ANGUILLA (REFTEL). PRESS REPORTS
STATE THAT BRADSHAW'S ACTION, WHICH CAME DURING BREAK IN EEC/
ACP MEETINGS, HAD "FULL SUPPORT" OF OTHER CARIBBEAN LEADERS.

2. WHILE WE DO NOT YET HAVE ANY REPORTS OF REACTION FROM ANGUILLA,
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BREAKAWAY ISLAND'S LEADER RONALD WEBSTER IS QUOTED AS SAYING ONLY

LAST WEEK THAT CARIBBEAN LEADERS "SHOULD NOT INTERFERE IN ANGUILLA'S AFFAIRS AND LEAVE ANY DECISION ON ISLAND'S FUTURE TO ANGUILLANS."

3. COMMENT: BRADSHAW'S ACTION WILL HAVE MORE SIGNIFICANCE AS A MANIFESTATION OF REGIONAL FEELING THAN FOR ITS IMPACT ON CARICOM, SINCE IT ALTERS NOTHING REGARDING PRESENT DIRECT RULE OF ANGUILLA BY HMG, AN ARRANGEMENT WHICH IS TO BE REVIEWED LATER THIS YEAR. BRIDGETOWN ADVOCATE-NEWS EDITORIAL OF JULY 29 ENTITLED "ANGUILLA STATUS QUO REMAINS" WAS MILDLY CRITICAL OF BRADSHAW'S ACTION, EXPRESSING VIEW THAT ANGUILLANS THEMSELVES ARE JUSTIFIED IN SEEKING TO TAKE PART IN ANY FINAL DECISION ON ISLAND'S FUTURE. THEORETICALLY BRADSHAW'S DECISION PAVES WAY FOR FULL PARTICIPATION IN CARICOM BY ST. KITTS/NEVIS; HOWEVER THIS HAS LITTLE REAL MEANING SINCE OTHER CARICOM MEMBERS HAD AGREED TO PERMIT ST. KITTS/NEVIS TO PARTICIPATE FULLY PENDING RESOLUTION OF ANGUILLA QUESTION.
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